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65 INJURED AS CAR PLOUGHS INTO LIVERPOOL VICTORY PARADE

At least 65 people, including four children, suffered injuries on Monday evening when a 53-year-old white British man drove over people

VEHICLE ENTERED STREET SHUT TO TRAFFIC

The horrific incident happened around 17.00 GMT Monday when thousands of people were on the streets of Liverpool to celebrate Liverpool FC winning the Premier League. As the parade wound up, a Ford Galaxy drove into Water Street, which had been shut to traffic. The car, blocked by bystanders, suddenly accelerated, knocking over people

CAR SPED UP WHEN ANGRY CROWD BLOCKED IT

- Police said the roadblock on Water Street had been lifted temporarily just before the incident to allow an ambulance to pass through
- The Ford Galaxy car followed the ambulance onto Water Street, when an angry crowd blocked the car and opened the driver's door
- The car then sped up, veering into people on both sides of the street

NO TERROR

POLICE QUICKLY DISCLOSED THE SUSPECT'S DETAILS TO REFUTE ISLAMIC TERROR ANGLE

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

MAOIST ANGLE

Truck load of explosives looted in Odisha

PRASANJEET SARKAR & ASISH MEHTA @ Rourkela/Bhubaneswar

UNIDENTIFIED persons, suspected to be Maoist operatives, on Tuesday looted a truck-load of explosives from a remote and forested area located about 90 km from Rourkela, in Sundargarh district. The area where the loot took place connects to Saranda forests in the adjacent West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand, considered the hotbed of Maoists.

The truck, sources said, was on its way to Banko area under K Balang police limits, where a stone quarry is located. Eight armed persons hijacked the truck around 10 am and drove it to the nearby forest where the explosive packets were unloaded.

As per preliminary information, the truck was carrying about 150 packets of gelatin sticks of Prime make.

DIG (western range) Brijesh Kumar Rai said the truck was intercepted near Banko and forcibly taken 1 km inside the forest, where the explosives were unloaded in presence of another 10-15 persons who then vanished into dense forests with the packets. Rai said the role of Maoists has not been ruled out.

Sundargarh SP Pratyush Diwaker said probe is on.

From the modus operandi and precision of action, sources pointed out that it appeared to be a handiwork of the Maoists. In the event these explosive packets reaching the hands of the Maoists, it may have devastating impact since the left wing ultras are battling for existence in Jharkhand.

Jailing of student over Sindoor post 'shocking': HC

Grants bail, says such 'radical' reactions by state will only radicalise young people

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

REFORM YOUNG MINDS

The Bombay High Court observed that educational institutions' responsibility is not limited to imparting academic education. Institutes should also help students learn from mistakes and reform, the bench added

NATIONAL INTEREST SAFE

HC rejected the college's argument that the student's anti-national sentiments posed a risk to campus community, saying mere critical social media posts cannot weaken national interest

THE Bombay High Court on Tuesday ordered the immediate release of a 19-year-old engineering student arrested for sharing an Instagram post on Operation Sindoor and slammed the Maharashtra government and state police for their 'radical reaction' to a critical comment.

While granting bail, a bench of justices Gauri Godse and Somasekhar Sundaresan said it was "absolutely shocking" that the student was treated like a hardcore criminal even after she apologised and deleted the social media post.

"It is shocking that an FIR was lodged against her on May 9 without even considering the fact that she had deleted the post and even apologised," the court said, while observing that the girl's act of sharing the post can only be termed as "act of indiscretion" by a young student.

"How can the state arrest a student like this? Does the state want students to stop expressing their opinions? Such a radical reaction will further radicalise the person," the court observed.

The bench also pulled up the college authorities for rusticating the student without giving her an opportunity to give an explanation. "How can you rusticate? Did you call upon an explanation? What is the purpose of an educational institution? Is it only to educate academically? You need to reform a student or make a student into a criminal?" Justice Godse told the counsel appearing for the college. The court suspended the rustication order. Noting that the student missed some of her exams while in custody, it issued directions to permit her to appear for the remaining papers. As for the papers missed, the student can make appropriate representations before the authorities.

During the hearing, the court enquired about the girl's mental and emotional status and directed the police to provide protection to the student. "Give her a separate classroom for writing exams," the bench told the college.

The allegation against the girl was that her social media post caused tension between two groups and posed threat to public peace. In her plea, the student said she shared a post without any ill intent and deleted it immediately after receiving a barrage of threats.

Bunked class? You could lose US visa

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

FREEZE ON VISA INTERVIEWS?

A late-night US media report claimed that the Trump administration has ordered all US embassies to halt new interviews for student visas as it intends to expand social media screening of the candidates. The US embassy in New Delhi denied receiving the order

THE United States has issued an advisory to international students in the country, including Indian nationals, urging them to strictly comply with the terms of their student visas. The US embassy in New Delhi warned that students who violate visa norms risk immediate consequences, including visa revocation and ineligibility for future US visas.

"Always adhere to the terms of your visa and maintain your student status to avoid any issues," the embassy stated in its notice on Tuesday. "If you drop out, skip classes, or leave your program of study without informing your school, your student visa may be revoked, and you may lose eligibility for future US visas," it added.

Non-compliance of norms by students could result in immediate termination of their F-1 visa status, which may jeopardise their legal stay in the US and impact any future study or immigration benefits.

According to the Open Doors 2024 Report on International Educational Exchange, the number of international students enrolled at US colleges and universities reached a record high of 11,26,690 in 2023-24. India was the leading contributor with 3,31,602 students during that period — a 23% jump compared to the previous academic year.

However, failure to follow the rules can have serious repercussions under Trump's rule. Violations such as poor academic performance, unauthorised absence, or failure to report employment under Optional Practical Training can lead to deportation and termination of work authorisation.

HONOUR ROLL

President Droupadi Murmu presents the Padma Bhushan to veteran Kannada actor and theatre artiste Anant Nag in New Delhi on Wednesday | PTI

BJP expels MLAs Hebbar, Somashekar for six years

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE BJP expelled the defiant MLAs, ST Somashekar and Shivaram Hebbar, from the party for six years for repeated anti-party activities. Hebbar is the Yellapur MLA and Somashekar represents Yeshwanthpura constituency. Both were ministers in the Yediyurappa Cabinet.

A few weeks ago, Vijayapura MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal was expelled from the party for anti-party activities.

The BJP Central Disciplinary Committee (CDC) Member Secretary Om Pathak said that the party took serious note of their repeated violations of the party discipline.

During Rajya Sabha elections last year, Somashekar voted for the Congress candidate. Hebbar in spite of the whip, did not vote.

Somashekar did not campaign for the BJP candidate during Lok Sabha polls and attended the Congress event at Belgavi. Hebbar attended a dinner organised by KPCC President DK Shivakumar. P4

EXPRESS INTAKE

Towing to be back | P3

Somanna flays closure of Aushadhi Kendras | P4

Kumble brand ambassador of forest dept | P5

EXPRESS READ

Jitesh's captain's knock helps RCB sail past LSG

Lucknow: IPL's group stage ended on Tuesday with RCB defeating LSG by 6 wickets in Lucknow. Batting first, host LSG, powered by skipper Rishab Pant (118* in 61 balls), took the team to 227/3. RCB, with a brilliant partnership between captain Jitesh Sharma (85* in 33 balls) and Mayank Agarwal (41* in 23 balls), chased the target in 18.4 overs | P15

No PSU will be shifted from state, says DCM

Bengaluru: The Karnataka government will not allow the shifting of any public sector units from the state, said DyCM DK Shivakumar on Tuesday. He was responding to AP CM N Chandrababu Naidu's proposal to relocate HAL units from Karnataka and offer to give 10,000 acres of land in AP | P4

Youth brutally murdered near Mangaluru, third in a month

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mangaluru

A youth was brutally murdered at Kolathamajalu near Adur in Bantwal taluk near Mangaluru on Tuesday. The deceased has been identified as **Abdul Rehaman**.

The incident occurred when Rehaman, a pick-up vehicle driver, went to Kolathamajalu to deliver sand. Two unidentified bike-borne youth attacked him with lethal weapons and fled. Rehaman died on the spot. Kalander Shafi, who was with Rehaman, sustained injuries and has been admitted to a private hospital in Mangaluru.

This is the third brutal murder in Dakshina Kannada in the last one month. Mohammed Ashraf, who hailed from Kerala, was lynched by a mob during a cricket match near Mangaluru on April 27. A few days later, rowdy-sheeter and Hindutva activist Suhas Shetty was murdered on May 1 at Bajpe near Mangaluru.

Following Tuesday's incident, the authorities imposed prohibitory orders in Mangaluru city and other parts of the district till 6 pm, May 30. The prohibitory orders ban assembly of five or more people, carrying out any procession, holding meeting, possessing weapons and raising slogans that might disturb communal harmony. P5

The motive is still not known. There have been systematic attempts to disturb peace in Dakshina Kannada and this incident appears to be part of it. I appeal to people not to heed to any rumours and have instructed the district administration to maintain law and order

Dinesh Gundu Rao, District minister

Above-normal rains, fewer heatwave days

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) on Tuesday updated its monsoon forecast to above-normal rainfall for the whole season from June to September. The average seasonal rainfall across the country is likely to be 106% of the Long Period Average (LPA) with a model error of ±4%.

Rainfall between 96% and 104% of the 50-year average of 87 cm is considered normal.

As for the flow of monsoon, it is intense in different parts of the west and southern regions, and is way ahead of schedule. But scientists say the movement of the monsoon could slow down after three days, opening up the possibility of a dry spell.

Except for the Northeast, J&K and Ladakh, the rest of the country will receive above-normal rainfall during monsoon season. Region-wise, the IMD expects normal rainfall in the Northwest (92-108% of LPA), followed by above-normal rainfall over Central India and South Peninsular India (over 106% of LPA). As for June, the countrywide rainfall is projected to be over 108% of LPA.

Above-normal monthly minimum temperatures are likely across the country, except in some parts of Central India and the South Peninsula, where normal to below-normal minimum temperatures are likely. As a result, the IMD expect below-normal heatwave days over the Northwest and the East.

A view of the flooded Motorai Palada village near Ooty in Tamil Nadu, following heavy rainfall in the Nilgiris on Tuesday | PTI

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